

# MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

VOLUME 1.

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## News and Comment

Good words for the MESSAGE come in from every section of the county. Now is the time to subscribe.

A. S. Houston thinks that Eldon railroad will surely be built soon and that Mexico is certain to profit thereby.

Prof. French Strother and wife are now in Virginia. Frightened out of the Indian Territory by the Smallpox.

Watch your poultry this weather and keep the hens warm. The eggs will be helping you furnish the groceries soon.

Champ Clark is after the paper trust. Clark has always been a friend of the country newspapers; he has been an editor himself.

Paris is still struggling against the smallpox epidemic. But the conditions are becoming favorable for a speedy relief from the disease.

A man over in Callaway County butchered a hog the other day that weighed 1050 pounds. Wasn't that a porker, and it grew in Missouri.

Prof. W. H. Williams, author of the article elsewhere in the MESSAGE entitled "Passing of the 19th Century," is a brother of J. V. Williams of Mexico and was born near this city.

They had a big rabbit hunt down at Worcester the other day. Jeff Atkins was captain on one side and Doll Hanger on the other. Two hundred and fifty-eight rabbits were killed.

Surgeons amputated both hands of Sister Theotima, who was so terribly burned while saving the lives of children in the holocaust at Saint Francis School, Quincy, on Friday before Christmas.

Some of the big Republican dailies wants the tariff on raw material removed so that the paper trust may be broken up. Ah, once in a while you'll find a Republican who'll help when his own medicine begins to eat him.

As the Centralia Guard correctly observes, the sentiment in favor of a State primary is not dead. The referendum and election of United States senators by direct vote is the same principle. Don't delude yourself; the idea is not dead nor will it die.

Miss Byrd Locke of Mexico royally entertained about twenty couple of her young friends last Thursday evening. Guessing contests was an enjoyable feature. A delicious spread of refreshments was served. Each lady guest carried away a beautiful Narcissus as a memento of the occasion.

Mrs. Lydia F. Nickols, north of Centralia, has filed suit in the Audrain Circuit Court against the estate of A. D. Spratt for \$2,000 with interest since September 1888, on an alleged marriage contract with the said A. D. Spratt. The case seems a little "mixed." Spratt married a Miss Rucker and recently died and Mrs. Nickols has been married a couple of times since 1888.

At the recent meeting of the General Assembly of the Knights of Labor a protest from Assembly No. 200 of Brooklyn against alleged unjust treatment of labor organizations by the Governor General of Cuba and against the same treatment at Wardner, Idaho, brought on the adoption of the following startling resolution: "Resolved, That the General Assembly has ample evidence that President McKinley is aware of the conditions that exist in Cuba and Wardner, Idaho, and has, to say the least, made no effort to redress the wrongs or to correct them, although urged to do so by prominent labor leaders, Congressmen and U. S. Senators, and we, therefore, must recognize William McKinley as the bitter enemy of labor, and ask labor to use its votes against him and his associates."

Did you turn over that new leaf? Then stick to it.

Centralia is talking up her next annual fair already.

Missouri will pay out of debt next year. Grand old Missouri.

Is it coming to the point that all the trusts are about to form into one trust?

Greedy fighting patriotism and love of country, both in the Philippines and in South Africa.

The friends of William Vivion are endeavoring to get his consent to become a candidate for Representative.

Is Uncle Sam really planting himself in South Africa to "quiet the niggers" and help the English? For shame.

The Markee family, consisting of father, mother and eleven sons, is touring Missouri county towns without a Sue to its name.

Miss Mary Cookley of Rush Hill is getting much notice and commendation for the flag "raisings" over the schools where she teaches.

Freedom of government everywhere. That's to be a declarative of Democracy next year. The Boer and Philippine struggles are strengthening that point every day.

The Monroe City Baptist church quarrel has resulted in a split church and there will be another church house erected. It would appear like quite a victory for Old Nick.

The Centralia Courier doesn't like the choosing of Norman J. Colman for State Fair president. The Courier says there isn't a bigger old wind bag and double-barrel gall bladder in the State.

J. R. Shell of near Laddonia is in favor of the initiative and referendum. So is the MESSAGE. Mr. Shell thinks the referendum would knock the unscrupulous lobby at the State Capital, and so it would.

William Simmons, aged 81 years, was burned to death at his home one night last week near Macon City. The old man lived alone, and about 9 o'clock a neighbor saw the fire, but the house had already fallen. The fire is supposed to have started from a defective flue.

Champ Clark stirred up the natives in Congress when the gold bill was up for discussion. The Louisville Courier Journal observes: Clark was given fifteen minutes and in one-third of that time he threw the House into a tumult. The Democrats gathered about him and urged him on, while the Republicans squirmed and endured their torture in silence. Mr. Clark's place is in the Senate, where knowledge is ever at a premium and debate rarely out of order.

It turns out that there is a far larger voting proportion among the foreign born population of Missouri than among the native. There were in 1890 2,444,315 natives of the United States in Missouri and 231,869 foreign born persons. Of the 2,444,315 natives including 150,000 negroes, 585,428 were of voting age, whereas of 231,869 foreign born inhabitants, 120,296 or more than one-half, were males of voting age. Warrensburg's new shoe factory is turning out 300 pairs per day and keeping sixty employees busy.

SHE  
She can solve "probs" in algebra.  
With precision and haste,  
And demonstrate in geometry  
To suit the queen's taste.

She can speak French and German  
She can read Latin at sight,  
She can write "chem." equations,  
She can waltz all night.

She can play the piano,  
She also can paint and draw,  
And such a hand to clothe  
I know you never saw!

She can do most anything  
That any mortal wishes,  
Excepting just two things—  
Work and wash mother's dishes.

Elmer E. French.

## Old Masonic Hall, Neosho, Confederate Capitol of Missouri

AN HISTORICAL BUILDING.

During the Civil War Neosho, Mo., was the scene of many stirring events. Situated on the line between the North and the South, it would be one day in the hands of the Federal forces and next in the hands of the Confederates. It was here that the seceders met and on October 21, 1861, in the old Masonic Hall building, of which the above is a cut, and which is still standing, signed the articles of secession. The body was composed of the deposed Governor Jackson and 39 members of the Confederate wing of the House and 10 members of the Senate, and the following is the title of the bill passed: "An act declaring the ties heretofore existing between the United States and the State of Missouri dissolved." During the consideration of this measure the town was defended by Price's army, which was stationed on the hill-tops surrounding the place.

The only dissenting votes to the passage of the bill were those of Charles H. Hardin in the Senate and Isaac N. Shambaugh in the House. The passage of the act was greeted with applause and the ringing of the cannons of Price's command.

The building has been removed from its original site, to give place to the city's growth, but it still stands in a fair state of preservation and is an object of much interest to strangers who visit the town.—Pointers, Kansas City, Mo.

J. V. Williams of Mexico was with Price's army on the occasion above referred to and he says it is a mistake that the passage of the act of secession was greeted with the roaring of cannon—the enemy was too close at hand. Mr. Williams says the loudest applause he remembers of hearing was a strapping big fellow running out and climbing upon a gatepost and giving three yells that he thinks should have been heard five miles.

The article from "Pointers" will be specially interesting to the people of Mexico and Audrain county because of the far-sighted action in the movement against secession by the late lamented C. H. Hardin.



C. H. Hardin.

## Has Had Wide Experience.

Autopsy Review.

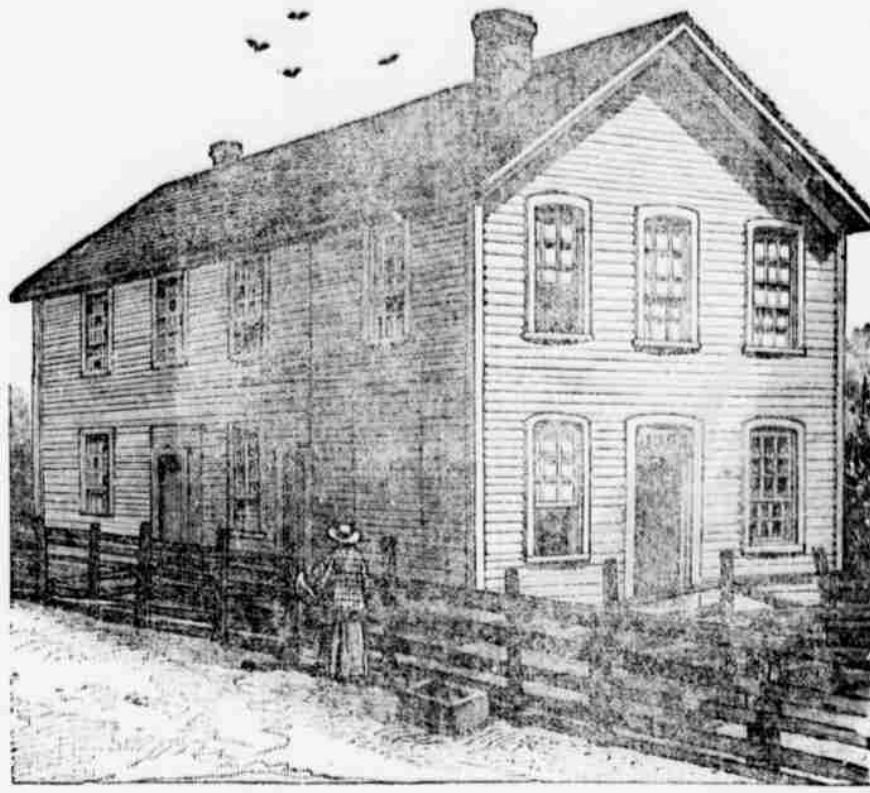
Hon. C. F. Clark of Audrain will be in the race for state senator from this district next year. Mr. Clark has had wide experience in legislative affairs and usually gets what he wants when he is a member of a legislative body. He is an untiring worker, and has the strong advantage which knowing how to work gives a man over one who does not know.

## THE PIKERS.

### Their Enthusiastic Support of the Worlds Fair.

LOUISIANA, Mo., Dec. 28.—The keynote of the banquets of the Pikers at Home and of the Dances of Pike County, last night, was a review of the World's Fair at St. Louis. New Year's eve speakers all turned on the subject of the Fair and in unison the enterprise was unanimously the principal address in support of the Fair at the Pikers at Home banquet we heard David A. Bat of Pike and Howard Elliott of St. Louis. The Hon. D. Pat Dyer of St. Louis was toastmaster and the program was as follows:

"Our Toastmaster," Capt. W. H. Morrow; "The Statesman," Judge R. F. R. of New London; "Contentment," Hon. P. D. Haslam, Solon; "The Land We Live In," R. L. L. Harris of St. Louis; "That Other Banquet," Eugene Pearson; "The American Citizen," Hon. T. J. Atkins, St. Louis; "The World's Fair in 1904," Hon. Howard Elliott of the Burlington Railroad; "The Piker as a Pathfinder," Hon. E. W. Mayors, Bowling Green; "The



J. V. Williams.

## THE NEW YEAR.

All bright and fair before us  
The pages of the New Year lie.  
The blurred and blotted records  
Of the old one are hid from mortal eye;  
The Past has covered them over  
With a pall of oblivious hue,  
And the Present holds for our own  
One that is spotless and fair to view.  
We accept it, with hope and fear  
Strangely blent, as we think of the past,  
And pray that the record of this  
May be fairer than that of the last.

—AUCIE HILL, LEWISTON, LADDONIA, MO.

Fraser," Hon. John A. Whitesides, Kahoka, Mo.; "The Twentieth Century," Father E. A. Casey, St. Louis; "The Present," Hon. Michael Sweeney, Slater, Mo.; "Laugh and the World Laughs With You," Hon. Jas. H. Whitecotton, Hannibal, Mo.

Mrs. F. T. Morrow was toastmaster of the banquet of the Daughters of Pike. The program was as follows: Instrumental solo, Miss Lizzie Straney; "The Old Days We Remember," Mrs. Frank Burnett; vocal solo, Mrs. W. L. Tinsley; "Our County Seat," Mrs. George A. Lee; "The Twentieth Century," Miss Eva Strange; vocal solo, Miss Mary Vaughan; "In Laws," Mrs. Sam Patton; "Old

Mask," Miss Esther Waldell; "Instrumental solo, Miss Lottie Patton; "Trusts," Miss Lura Linsley; "The Gentleman," Mrs. F. H. Mitchell.

Plates were laid 300 at the Pikers at Home banquet and for 150 at the ladies banquet. A large delegation of native Pikers came to the gathering on a special car from St. Louis.

## Paw on the Trusts

Centralia Courier.  
It was a Lucky Thing for Columbus that He Came Over here and discovered this country when He did; for had he been here when He was at the family Sederite before last.

"Why?" maw ask Him.  
"Bees," paw Told Her, "if Enny-

budy Come over Here looked for a place to land now Do you no what Would Hapen? J. Pierpont Morgan Would Be there when the Gen. Disenver pulled up to the Dock and say: "I Hat to Behash with you, Christ, But this Belongs to a sin avocate what I have jis' for-a-d, and you want to Tie a Rope to the Western hemasteer you Got to jay the ske-yool price."

"Who is J. Pierpont Morgan?" maw ask. "I think I herd that name Some where Before."

"He is the man what lets God press the Button," paw Told her, "and he Does the rest. He blows the Whissel for the people of this country in the mornen and shuts the Gates at nite. He owns a mill yin dollar yot and has aprivint car and Cant eat Sweet things Beesoz they make Hun too Fat, that's who who He is. Every nite when He goes to Bed he neels Down and prays:

"Now I Lay Me Down to sleep  
(I formed Another trust to Day)  
I pray the Lord my sole to keep  
(I've Got another under way)  
If I should Die Before I Wake  
(I'll Git it tru without a Doubt)  
I pray the Lord my sole to Take  
(And bar all other people Out)

"Ey Sakes," maw says, "it's jist urrable, aint aint it. I wonder what makes him Do it I should Think he would Rather Take a vacation fer awhile and Let Sam-buddy else to Run the Erth fer a few weeks jist to see if they could Do it."

"Well," Paw Says, "I tell you How it is. Ae Don't think it would berite. You see He is a flutherpest. Every few days He gives a Hors pittle or norten asy-um to Sam-buddy what needs one in their Bizness. If he wouldn't keep maken a millyun Every week or two How could he do sich kind deeds for the poor?"

"Well," maw says, "mebbly that mite Be So, after all. So we Otten to blame him too harsh."

"No," pa answered, "I spose the people what would git sum of the munny if He was nt taken it ad mite Look after the orfuns and Bid the Hors pittle if they had a Chanet, and mebbe sum of them nee d it therselfs. But how does he no? He Can't take no chances by lettin people Run things on thar own H ook. Even if He Does keep Gittin Kitcher and Kitcher Takin in Five Dollars what other folks Can hardly Spair and givin away thirty sent of it to H lp the Sick and Orfuns. When a man is a Flutherpest he can't jist sit around lettin other people give away what they think they kin afford. He has to take it away from them and Divide it Up among the Poor and Keep about ninety ate pur sent for His trouble."

## PUBLIC INSTALLATION.

### The M. W. A. Lodge of Mexico Will Have a Big Time Jan. 5.

Mexico Lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America are planning to give a big public entertainment and installation of officers on Friday night, Jan. 5th. Following will be the program:

Song, by the Camp.  
Prayer, Rev. F. M. Shoush.  
Installation of officers by Deputy Head Consul, J. L. Horton.  
Quartette, LaForce, Jesse, Nichols, and Threlkeld.  
Address of Welcome, Joseph S. McIntyre.

Solo, Mrs. C. R. Gibbs.  
Recitation, Miss Sue Robertson.  
Vocal Duets, Misses Ruby and May Horton.

Recitation, Miss Irma Johnson.  
Duets, Miss West and Mrs. Kunkel.

Vocal Solo, Mrs. James Jesse.  
Address of the evening, Rev. J. J. Porter.

Quartette, Threlkeld family.  
J. V. Williams, Master of Ceremonies.

Refreshments will be served under 15 years not expected.

The delegates from the various Camps of the county will meet in A. O. U. W. Hall at 3 p. m. for the purpose of forming a county organization. The M. W. A. is the largest fraternal insurance order in existence and its local membership is composed of our best citizens.

COMMITTEE.



## Dairy Notes.

Reports are current that more than the usual number of cows have been killed this year by being struck by lightning. Investigations reveal the strange fact that a large number of them were killed while standing by wire fences. The lightning would strike the wire and instead of grounding would run along the fence its whole length, and somewhere in its course would come near enough to the cows to affect them fatally. Had the lightning grounded as soon as it struck the wire the danger of striking the cows at all would have been small. It was acted as non-conductors or at least were so inferior to the wires as a conducting medium that the lightning hung to the wires. This will be an easy matter to remedy. A wire running down the posts every little way will be a means of conducting the electricity into the earth.

In a recent issue we took up the question of the Illinois law regarding the slaughter of tuberculous cattle. We cited the law that had been in effect for a number of years allowing an appraisal of all animals slaughtered. In the appropriation bill of the last legislature a clause was inserted that made more specific the manner of slaughtering such animals and the amounts of money that could be obtained from the state for them. It was taken into consideration that there was a great difference in the value of cows slaughtered dependent on the progress of the disease. One cow with a single tubercle in her not larger than a pea would be valuable as a milker for years, while a cow whose lungs were in an advanced state of decay would be practically worthless. Therefore all slaughtered animals are now divided into six grades or classes. Class A: All cattle that on slaughter are found to be free from tuberculosis. These are paid for at full value by the state provided the valuation does not exceed \$75. B, C, D, E, and F, indicate the degrees of progress the disease has made in the animals. For B the owner recovers 75 per cent of the value; for C, 50 per cent; for D, 35 per cent; for E, 25 per cent, and for F 15 per cent.

The healthfulness of oleomargarine is a question that is constantly being considered. The difficulty of properly answering the question is increased by the fact that the oleomargarine of today is not necessarily the oleomargarine of tomorrow, and the oleomargarine that is turned out by one factory is not the same as that turned out by another. Chemists have now discovered that some oleomargarine contains paraffin, to give it firmer composition. Paraffin by itself is indigestible, and it may also be indigestible when incorporated with the fats that compose oleomargarine, but we are not yet certain of that point, for the reason that no one appears to have investigated what paraffin will do in such a combination. It may be less harmful than by itself or it may be more harmful. It may be that the union of paraffin with fat permits some of it to get through the tissues with the fat, and there it may work all kinds of mischief—or it may not. However, people do not care to take their chances on such uncertainties. It is manifestly the duty of the government to ascertain such facts for the people. If paraffin is to be sold as butter we should at least know what effect it will have when taken into the human system. We believe that every pound of oleomargarine that goes out should have stamped on the package containing it the ingredients that are used in its manufacture, including all preservatives.

Co-operative Dairying in Belgium.  
Co-operative dairy societies had until recently not made much progress in Belgium, but during the past few years there has been a remarkable increase in their numbers, eighty-seven institutions of this character having been established in the year 1897 alone, says the British Dairy Farmer. At the beginning of 1898 there were 167 dairies in operation, supported by 17,922 co-operating members. An interesting feature of this development is the fact that it has taken place for the most part among the peasant farmers, the average number of cows owned by the co-operators being barely three per member. Butter is the principal product of these societies, and their output of this commodity in 1897 was valued at £255,000, while the value of their sales of cheese, milk, and separated milk was estimated at £10,500. The published accounts of one of these co-operative dairies situated at Oostcamp, Flanders, show that the average price realized for the butter produced and sold in the year 1897 was 1s. 0½d. per lb. The average price received by the shareholders for the milk supplied by them to the dairy was 3½d. per gallon, but the profits on the working of the year amounted to an additional halfpenny per gallon, while the value of the separated milk returned to the members was calculated to be 1½d. per gallon. In this society, which is typical of many others, the profits are divided as follows: One-half to the shareholders who hold one share for each cow they keep; one-fourth to the reduction of loan capital, 15 per cent to the reserve fund, and the remainder is distributed in the form of a bonus to the employees of the society.